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INFORMATION REPORT

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SOURCE

1. Location: About 2.8km northeast of Chiatura (43°17'E/
42°17'N), Georgian SSR.

2. Installations

a. When source went to the plant in April 1948 the excavation work for the washing plant which, according to fellow-PWs had been under way since early 1947, was just completed. Originally, there had been an about 9-meter wide level along the slope about 72 meters above the valley. This level had long been used for the track of a narrow-gauge field railroad line. By blasting operations, a second level was constructed higher up the slope and the lower level was widened to about 36 meters.

5. The buildings of the washing plant were then erected on the two levels.

3. The work for the construction of the base for the cable-way pier was begun in May 1948 (see Annex).

3. The plant was designated Manganese Plant Topf. The old manganese mines and processing plants have existed since World War I. Since the manganese ore mined near Chiatura had to be shipped long distances an ore dressing and concentrating plant has been under construction since 1945.

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It is scheduled to be put into operation in 1950. The plant installations are being built on the slope running along the southern bank of the Kvirila brook which is crossed by two cableways constructed for the transportation of the manganese ore. Power is supplied from the Chiatura power plant.

4. Work force:

Four hundred PWs and 400 civilian workers, including numerous women, were assigned to the construction of the plant.

5. Output:

Five or six trains consisting of nine cars each, loaded with 20 tons of manganese ore left the old washing plant every day.

25X1A Comment:

Report is a valuable confirmation and supplement to previous information on the Chiatura manganese dressing plants. The attached sketch by source 1 gives a good picture of the layout of the plant installations in the Kvirila Valley and is a valuable confirmation of previous reports.

1 Annex: Layout Sketch of the Manganese Plant of Chiatura.

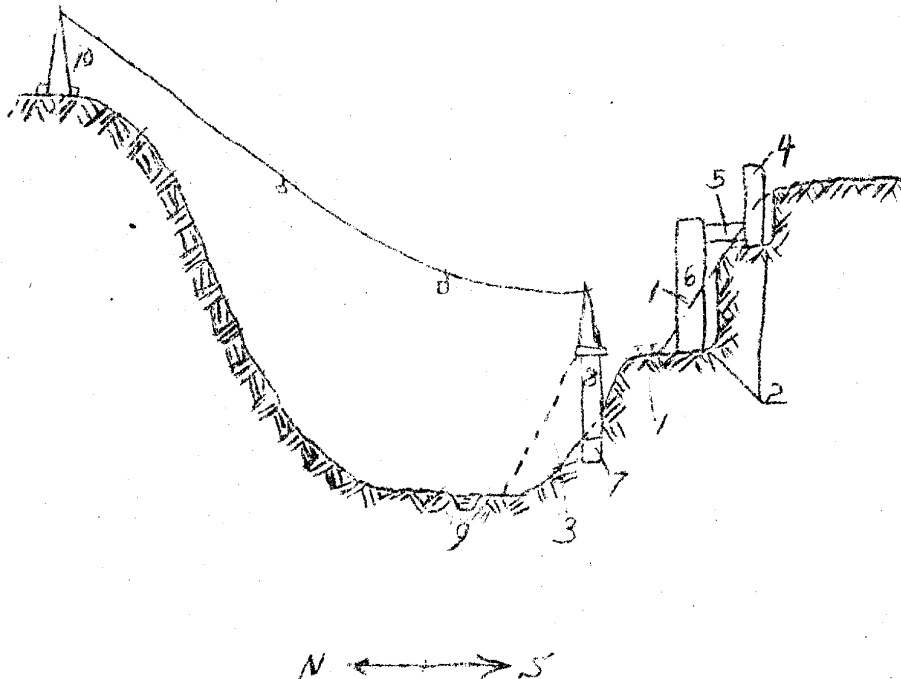
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Attachment

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Layout Sketch of the Manganese Plant of Chiatura



Legend:

not to scale

1. Level with the narrow-gauge railroad line
2. Second level blasted into the slope
3. Earth piled up for the widening of the first level
4. Washing plant No 1, brick building, 30x30x36 feet.
5. Connection to the second washing plant
6. Washing plant No 2, 30x30x15 feet. Both washing plants are equipped with several sieves and grates arranged one below the other
7. Foundation for the cableway pier, 15 feet square and 30 feet deep
8. Scheduled cableway pier; the required structural steel was already piled up on the spot
9. Valley of the Kvirila River
10. Supporting pier of the cableway

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